

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
USSN: 09/357,990

**REMARKS**

Claims 4-11, 15-18 and 19-33 are all the claims pending in the application.

The Examiner has allowed claims 4-11 and 19-33.

Applicant notes that in the Office Action dated August 19, 2003, the Examiner stated that claim 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In the Amendment dated November 17, 2003, Applicant intended to rewrite claim 15 in independent form to attain its allowance. However, Applicant inadvertently omitted limitations from the intervening claim. Applicant has corrected this error and has amended claim 15 to include the limitations of claims 12 and 14. Therefore, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of and objection to claim 15. Because this amendment places the claim in condition for allowance and no new searching should be required, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this amendment.

Regarding claims 16-18, they should be allowable based on their dependence from claim 15.

Applicant has also amended claim 26 to correct the informalities identified by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claim 26.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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